



June '10

The Mountain Yodeler

LEONA VALLEY CHERRY PARADE
SAT., JUNE 5, 11 AM

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Lake Hughes, CA

June 1, 2010 Volume 10 Number 7 Serving Lake Hughes, Elizabeth Lake, Leona Valley, Green Valley, Three Points and Neenach Distribution: 2,500

HELUS Named Distinguished School

By Diane Parkins,
Superintendent/Principal

Greetings from Hughes-Elizabeth Lakes School District. Many things are occurring at our school that I would like the community to be involved in to ensure that we continue to have an extraordinary school.

First, we are officially a California Distinguished School if you go to the California Department of Education website you can find the name of our school. We will be receiving our award and recognition from the state department in Anaheim on June 4, 2010. This brings recognition to our school for all the hard work the staff and parents have done to ensure our students are successful.

The entire school will have a celebration on June 10 from 8:30 - 9:00 on our upper field to recognize our award. We want students,

parents, staff and community members to be a part of this celebration. If you are available during that day we cordially invite you to attend.

We will be beginning a new Home

School/Independent Study program here at HELUS.

This program information will be discussed at a meeting on June 3, 2010 from 3 - 4. We will work with parents who want to continue to school their children at home but would like some of the benefits of being connected to our school. If you know of anyone who is home schooling their children, have them come to this meeting and find out more information.

You have probably heard much about schools budgets and the cuts schools have had to make. We have been hit doubly hard. Not only has our money from the state and

See HELUS, page 3

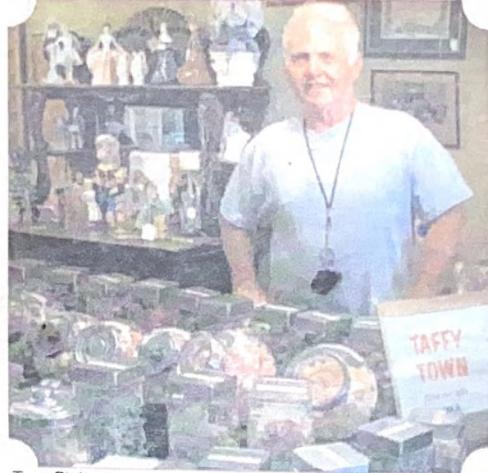
Leona Valley Continues Water Rate Fight

Residents of Leona Valley and Lake Hughes won't know until at least December just how much their water rates will increase in 2011, according to Chuck Fluharty, co-chairman of the committee that was formed to fight the proposed 138% increase. "It could be as long as 18 months," said Fluharty at the May meeting of the Leona Valley Town Council.

With the assistance of California Rate Payers Association, five members of the Leona Valley committee traveled to San Francisco to participate in a settlement conference with California Water Service in April to see if the two sides could come to an agreement on some of the issues, Fluharty told attendees of the town council meeting. "At the settlement conference we talked about 50 capital improvements," said Fluharty. The improvements are those which the committee thinks are either unnecessary or overpriced.

The five committee members made a second trip to San Francisco to attend an evidentiary hearing. "We made a good showing. We are well respected by the Rate Payers Association," said Fluharty. "We were given half a day to

See Water Rates, page 2



Tony Pinker and his wife Carol, of Green Valley, just opened an Antique/Collectible store in Leona Valley. Grossman photo.

"Pinker Place" Opens in Leona Valley

By Glenn McConnell
Contributing writer

An amazing new store has opened in Leona Valley. On May 15, 2010, Tony and Carole Pinker opened the doors to their antique and gift store at the corner of Elizabeth Lake Road and 90th Street West.

They will be open 7 days a week from 11 am to 6 pm.

When you walk into their store it has a very friendly, warm and inviting feeling. The place is loaded with antiques. Just a few of the items I saw were furniture, clocks, lighting, paintings, chairs, quilted handbags and purses, linens, kitchenware, a kids' corner, collectables, comic books, cameras, books, movie memorabilia and much much more.

The store is more than just an antique store. They also carry wonderful gift items, such as 42 different flavors of taffy, cookies

imported from Pennsylvania, jewelry, photo albums, jams, jellies, honey, special chocolate, pancake mix, cake mix, bread mix, chimes, Howard Restore Products, milk paint, gift cards and bags, crackling scented candles, hand soap and many more great gifts!

My favorite was a writing pen made with wood and the casing to a high powered rifle. This is great gift idea for the hunter in your family.

Tony and Carole have lived in Green Valley for the past 16 years. Both Tony and Carole are retired from the movie industry.

They love traveling and hunting for antiques. Their passion is collecting and restoring antiques.

Tony and Carole also have two other stores. One is located in Quartz Hill (42314 50th Street West) and one in Wrightwood (6014 Park Drive).

Two Arrested at Pot Plantation

By Dahlia Grossman
Editor/publisher

Two men were arrested in connection with a pot plantation in Lake Hughes, according to Resident Deputy Bob Schneider.

"I got a call from a maintenance worker from The Painted Turtle saying he had found an irrigation line hooked up to the water tower behind the property," said Schneider. "A narcotics team went to the scene and the lines were ripped out, but at that point there were no plants yet," he said.

Deputy Schneider said that the next day he happened to see a Hummer driving around Lake Hughes with a missing tail light. When he questioned the driver, he discovered that the man was unlicensed and didn't own the vehicle. The owner of the vehicle, also unlicensed, was asleep in the backseat.

"We found irrigation equipment in the car along with 750,000 seeds, lots of fertilizer, a loaded shotgun and rifle slugs. I knew it was them," said the deputy.

"The next day we caught the men cutting through community center property to

See Pot Plantation, page 2

CONTACT THE YODELER
Ads, payments and articles for the June 1 issue must be received by June 15. Send submissions to dahlia.grossman@verizon.net and payments to Mountain Yodeler, Box 444, Lake Hughes, CA 93532.

For more information, call 661-724-1293 or 965-2201.



Doctor Dave poses with Little Miss Lakes Elyse Carroll, Junior Miss Lakes Ashley Rich, Savannah Wright and her puppy Chanel at the Lake Hughes vet clinic on May 8. Photo: Donna Carroll.

FREE CHIPPING DAYS
To assist in reducing the hazardous fuels
The USDA Forest Service will be conducting
chipping operations free of charge

SAT JUNE 5
Green Valley Charitable Hall

SAT JUNE 12
Lakes Community Center
9AM - 3PM

BINS DONATED BY
W.M.
W.M. SOURCE MANAGEMENT
For more info call 270-9911

FireSafe COUNCIL

Pot Plantation

From page 1
get to the "plantation," which was actually on Forest Service land located behind the Lake Hughes camp," said Deputy Schneider.

According to the deputy, one man was sentenced to 16 months in state prison; the other was deported to Mexico.

Water Rates

From page 1
present our findings. They have never been faced with a committee that has demanded them like this," he said.

The portion of West Lakeside that is in the water district has also been the fight, according to the committee. "We're still working with Lakeside, such as Steve Irvin of Trout Reality, and Retired Judge Howard Swart, who is raring to go," said Anna Seymour.

According to Seymour, Steve and George Runner both wrote letters asking the administrative law judge and commissioners who were in the meeting in December to deny the application.

Her teacher said: "Ava is a team player, a great leader and an extremely talented culinarian. I am proud to have her in my class. She was also invited to participate in the Johnson & Wales University Chef of the Year competition in Miami, Florida.

Last year, Ava received the "Cool Kid Award" from ABC news website on television. She has also been featured on a CNN special on cooking.

In September, Ava will have completed her studies at Le Cordon Bleu in Paris, France. Ava's ambition is to be a "hauteur." For us common folks, she is someone who makes souffles. She will graduate with an Associate of Arts Degree.

For the past three years, Ava has held down a job as a sales associate at the Disney Store.

Ava has secured a paid internship with Disney World in Orlando Florida, which she will start upon completion of her schooling.

In her spare time, Ava volunteers at the Senior Center in Santa Clarita. She loves jazz and coffeehouse music. Her favorite foods are Greek and French.

As an only child, however, my faith in our younger generation has once again been restored. Ava, you are a lady on a mission with an abundance of talent, drive and determination. I salute you. You are truly one of Green Valley's finest.

Did you hear about the Mahanah who refused to let his son drink from the public canal? His goal: transcend dental medication.

June 1, 2010

Volume 10 Number 7

Green Valley Citizen of the Month: Ava Bardsley

By Glenn McConnell, contributing writer

As I sat and

talked with

Ava

Bardsley, I

thought to

myself, "What

a breath of

fresh air."

Ava is 19

years old and

has lived in

Green Valley

her entire

life. She is not one

of those young

adults you see

hanging around

nothing to do.

She is a

self motivated

woman with

drive and

ambition.

Ava's typical day

begins at 4:30

and ends at 10 pm.

At four years old, Ava began watching the food network

while other kids were watching cartoons. While growing up, her mother, Linda, taught her to cook. She has been experimenting with new dishes. While attending Hart High School, Ava enrolled in the Regional Occupational Program (ROP). At age 17, Ava was honored as the outstanding ROP student of the year.

Her teacher said: "Ava is a team player, a great leader and an extremely talented culinarian. I am proud to have her in my class. She was also invited to participate in the Johnson & Wales University Chef of the Year competition in Miami, Florida.

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His goal: trans-

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June 1, 2010

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Real Estate Market: Boom or Bust? Is the Market Really Out of the Woods Yet?

By Linda Marcella Berg, Contributing Writer

Special to the Mountain Yodeler

Some say the banks are

becoming less heavy with

overstocking of foreclosed homes they are

hoarding, while only releas-

ing a trickle to the public at a

time. The price is still a few

dollar per home on the resale

side. This is a form of a bu-

ble that is threatening to

burst the bubble and cause

many homes at a time,

which would cause the prices

to keep falling.

Is anyone really forcing

the banks to release more

than they are holding, and

is it the banks that are

dictating how they should be

managing all these forecl-

losures? They are collecting

more than they are holding

in their own captain on that ship.

Additionally, if they allow a

huge inventory of unused

houses to sit on the market

for a long time, they will

lose money to "keep them

afloat."

Unfortunately, there

are no "bottoms" of

the housing market in foreclosures, as more people

opt to "walk" or short sell

their homes after seeing the

guy down the street as the

same.

This may be a release of

a long term trend, but the

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Prices Are Inching Up

In March of 2008 there

were 282 homes sold in the

High Desert area, which led

to a marked increase of 614

homes sold this past March.

The average selling price is

up approximately 12% over

the same period last year.

Other areas across the United

States are still declining.

The Antelope Valley is

an area that is still up.

Investors who are picking up

these properties at "rentable"

prices with a sensible profit

margin. Most of the popu-

larity of the Antelope Valley

is the fact that the Valley

still has the overall

best prices for what you can

buy in the state of California.

Investors are still getting

great deals, as many internet

shoppers are aware of

the "Fast Facts."

Call 760-244-7970

(Source: C.A.R.)

Call 760-244-7970

No Decision Yet on Power Lines in Green Valley

By Lu Boile, senior staff writer
No decision has been made yet on whether the BLM's proposed transmission line project will cut through Green Valley, according to representatives from the BLM and the U.S.D.A. Forest Service, who attended the April meeting of Green Valley Town Council.

A presentation by GYTC president Dale Kimmel showed several alternative routes that Green Valley residents suggested for the line to consider. Rather than just telling them "The folks in Green Valley don't want the transmission line to go through Green Valley,"

Kimmel displayed a more detailed map, including several possibilities from the wind farm at Toltec to the switching stations at Rivas.

He showed exactly where the three routes under consideration would go, and then showed the various route suggestions, first incorporating Route 1, the one going by the aqueduct and along Hwy 138. "It would not require as much major new road construction, because Hwy 138 as well as the Old Ridge Road are possible candidates for installation and servicing the towers."

Dale also suggested the use of an existing 11-mile tunnel between Fairmont Reservoir and South Portal as a possible alternative transmission line along proposed Route 2. This would effectively bypass the Green Valley property and branches on the north side of San Francisco, and has ample room for many future lines as well as the aqueduct running through this tunnel, but he suggested that it could be feasible to incorporate both power lines into the roof and water in pipes below.

Dale also mentioned that led-
eral stimulus money might pay for most of the costs if they were to go through.

Chuck Holloway, one of the DWP representatives at this meeting, thanked Dale for his obvious hard work and thought that he was right. His presentation, referring that so many people with whom he has had to deal lately simply do not "get it," but have no alternative solutions to a problem which must be solved, one way or another. He suggested that the idea of the Elizabeth Lake Tunnel was new to him, and he would study this alternative route next week.

Mr. Holloway then spoke about all the concerns of all the sides in this situation: residents and business concerned about protecting their homes/health; the state mandated that a certain percentage of energy must be produced without the use of fossil fuels, and the transport of that energy. Solutions must somehow be accomplished.

"No matter which route is chosen, somebody will be unhappy about it," said Holloway. One thing that has been told to him is that the number of individual homes to be affected within each route is not being counted. This is not the only thing to be taken into consideration of course, but is just one additional facet of this problem.

Several Green Valley residents/business owners spoke of "the market value" in case of seizure by eminent domain at this time would not be good because of property values now being "upside down" due to the current economic situation.

Warren Bemler stated that besides the obvious health problems and the lowering of property values that

these high-tension wires would produce, the views for so many residents of Green Valley who purchased their homes would be permanently destroyed.

(A series of photos on display at the Green Valley N. Soul Coffeehouse depict what these ugly transmission lines look like crossing Elizabeth Lake and just above the "Lazy T" horse facility near Palmdale. Seven such sets of lines cross the valley at the moment, each with different styles of transmission towers. No one wants to have that as their daily view from their living room windows.)

Alesia Robertson added that none of the homes here at Green Valley are "cocktail cutter" homes.

Each home is a unique, custom-designed residence, and this has produced a very rare concern that the property

should not be compromised by such massive, ugly transmission towers cutting across

Questions were also raised concerning the ultimate effect of the towers and increasing power line encroachment in the future.

Answers were given.

"What would be the com-

plete impact of the towers?"

Chuck Holloway empha-

ized that all persons

involved are doing what they

can to find the best solu-

tion for all involved, but reminded all that the towers may be

someone who is unzinc

with whatever is decided.

"Every element is a trade-

off," he said. "The challenge is to find the best one for me most concerned.

The final draft of the

Environmental Impact Report

is due by late September.



Volunteers Linda Joynt and Liz Nicholson work in the kitchen at the Leona Divide Marathon dinner at Lakes Community Center. Photo: Peggy Moore.

Code 7 Ministries

A food ministry serving the Lakes and Valleys. If you are in need of food or have food to donate (canned goods or dry goods), call Glenn at 276-9016.



42314 50th St. W., Quartz Hill
 661-718-8866



Honorary Mayor's Race Heats Up

By Tom Joynt
Contributing writer
The Lakes Community Center's big event, 49er's Day Parade and Festival, is held on the last Saturday in July. July 17th this year. It is the 10th year of the race and a great time for the Honorary Mayor's Race.

Now in a convenient location, get out and vote for your favorite candidate. In this race, you vote for your favorite candidate by helping them raise the most money. All the money that the Honorary Mayor candidate raise goes to helping keep the Lakes Community center running all year.

So how can you help your candidate raise money? I'm glad you asked! Each candi-

date has raffle tickets to sell.

Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5. Many raffle prizes are given away during the festival. If you buy a single \$1 ticket could allow you to take home some beautiful jewelry, win an evening in a suite, receive gift services from a variety of businesses, and the list goes on and on. Candidates can also hold their own fundraising events to compliment the raffle ticket sales and boost their total that they can raise.

What? A candidate can BUY their office if they want. Are you saying the BIGGEST SLUSH FUND WINS?

Yep. It's that simple. In a way we parallel what

We are your local Home Town Real Estate Professionals!
Lake Elizabeth, Lake Hughes, Leona Valley, Green Valley and Other Outlying Areas



Custom home in peaceful Lake Hughes. This loving home has been totally rebuilt. New kitchen features granite countertops and new stainless steel appliances. New bathroom with granite counter and granite tub. Granite crown molding throughout. You must see the interior detailed wood work in this charming home. Additional lots available.
CALL PEGGY DEHAAS (661)724-2592

Escape from the city to peaceful horse property in Lake Hughes. What an opportunity to own this 2 bedroom 1 bath country home on a level one acre lot. Home needs rehabinating or remodeling. All utilities and sewer connected. \$159,000.
CALL PEGGY DEHAAS (661)724-2592

Enjoy country living in the 3 bedroom 2 bath custom ranch home in beautiful Leona Valley. Living room has woodstove and open beam ceiling. Big family room and spacious kitchen. This 2.3 acre property is zoned A2, ready for your horses, riding trail nearby, and a great place to build a home. There is a short sale, price must be approved by bank. \$285,000.
CALL PEGGY DEHAAS (661)724-2592

June 1, 2010

asked a few questions about the race and here's what they said:

Candidate #1 Russ Williams.

The candidate who raises the most money is chosen as the Honorary Mayor of the Lakes Area. Formerly the Lakes Area was part of the great history of Lake Hughes and Elizabeth Lake. No, it's not 15 minutes of fame. You get a lifetime of fame.

And now that you know the ground rules, let's meet the candidates. The 49er's Day Parade is Saturday, June 18th. Who's most fortunate to have four candidates this year? This is the most candidates in any Honorary Mayor Day Parade ever. Let's meet the two ladies and two gentlemen who are running. They were

Russ says that rather than have a big parade, the other candidate, he will probably continue to be the announcer. (This could be to Russ's advantage on this last day of ticket sales.)

Russ is running on a platform of change. (Wait, I've heard that before.) That is, change in your pocket. Change between the couch cushions, any change that can be used to buy raffle tickets.

Russ believes that the community ought to be able to put a dollar in his pocket, not just the big corporations! He says the Honorary Mayor's race is there to do and it gives the community that opportunity.

Candidate #2 Elizabeth Nicholson.

Elizabeth lives in Lake Hughes. You know her because she is the waitress at the Green Valley Inn. Her strategy is to sell lots of tickets and make lots of money for the Community Center.

Elizabeth's Grill recently had to reduce hours. Liz considered dropping out due to the upturn in the normal employment.

But no, Liz isn't dropping out. She's going to see it through. She's going to stick with our candidate with lots of fight!

Candidate #3 Tom Hamilton.

Tom lives in Elizabeth Lake and if you bought a beer at the May Music Fest or at last year's 49er's Day, you probably met him. Tom is a great guy. Tom helps set up and run that booth. Tom hinted that as a boost to his ticket sales, he might hold a Bingo event.

He's glad there is no regis-

stration for the campsite. It's all fun and we are all good sports! What's Tom's campaign slogan? "Beer at every event!"

Candidate #4 Allaire Koslos.

Allaire lives in Lake Hughes and is no stranger to the Honorary Mayor Race. She has participated in the event twice and is currently our outgoing mayor. This means she could be a two-term mayor. Can the Lakes Area take it? Allaire writes a column in the Yodeler and is active in conservation efforts.

Allaire's campaign is a pledge drive where those who sign up contributed \$1 for each ticket sold. She finished all the recent Leona Divide foot race. She finished all the lake a former Leona Divide race and she technically is a lame duck, she promises to forge ahead with ticket sales for the cause.

That sums up our candidates. When you get the chance, ask them for a donation from your candidate of choice and we'll see who will be Leona Valley's Honorary Mayor.

Elizabeth's Grill will be selling tickets during the 49er's Day festival at 6 pm and we will announce the winner at 7 pm.

Humor

The exchange between Churchill and Lady Astor. She said, "If you were my husband I'd poison your tea."

He said, "If you were my wife, I'd drink it."

A member of Parliament to Garfield. "Sir, you will either die on the gallows or of some unspeakable disease."

"That depends, Sir," said Garfield. "whether I embrace your policies or your mistress."

"He had debates of adequacy." - Winston Churchill

"He has all the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire." - Winston Churchill

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Lakes Community Center Plans Tour of St. Francis Dam

The Lakes Community Center is planning the next History Event for Saturday, June 19, 2010. It will be a revit to the Saint Francis Dam, which was such a popular happening two years ago.

Movie to Precede Tour.

Starting at 1 pm, a movie will be shown at the Lakes Community Center, 7520 Elizabeth Lake Road. After the movie, all will proceed to the dam site where you may walk in and see where the dam was located. At Power House #2 a short video will be played back to your car if you choose to walk to the end of the walk out pier. You may also choose to wear walking shoes. If you are not able to walk this, but would like to continue the tour you may rest in your car until the end of the tour.

Visit Graves of St. Francis Dam Tragedy Victims

Another addition to this year's visit is a tour of the graves of some of the victims of the tragedy. The group will proceed on foot to the graves of the victims of the tragedy.

Mr. Cyrus Kealey. He has graciously consented to allow access to the graves of the Ruiz Family, who were victims of the disaster and whose graves are on Mr. Kealey's land.

The tour will be for both young and old. Because the Lakes Community Center (LCC) is continuing with the restoration of the "CCC Building" which requires much work, the tour will be limited to 50 people.

Children 12 and under are free. For information call Linda at 661-724-0737. Please join the LCC for this "History Happening" in June.

June 1, 2010

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Page 9



Volunteers rest after picking up trash from around the lake at the Lakes and Valleys Conservancy's first cleanup day in April. See article, page 12 and more photos, page 18.

Green Valley Plans Parade

Parade meeting called

A SPECIAL MEETING FOR THE JULY 4TH GREEN VALLEY DAYS & PARADE will be held

TUESDAY, JUNE 15 AT 7:30 PM. WE NEED VOLUNTEERS. PLEASE COME TO THE MEETING.

We will have a short meeting and then the

lineup is at 8 am and the judging is at 9 am and the

parade starts at 10 am. You must be signed up

before the parade to qualify to be in the parade and receive your ribbon. No excuses. Pick up

forms at the Pony Inn. Heart n' Soul or Mike's alone.

Swap Meet

Green Valley Chantable Halls Board would like to thank everyone that supported us in our very successful swap meet. Because of your donations we are a little closer to getting a roof.

Membership Renewals Due

We would also like to remind anyone who has not renewed their membership that they are now due. If you have not yet done so, please do so.

We hope to see you all at the upcoming Ice

Cream Social and Tea Sandwiches event to be held

on Sunday, June 27 from 11 am to 1 pm.

Ice Cream Social

For those who like the Jet Hawk Games, the

tickets have been replaced and we are now selling

them. Please contact Bee at 270-5534. The seats

are donated behind 3rd base and the game is

Saturday, July 31 at 7 pm. Bakersfield is playing

the Jet Hawks.

Bookmobile

For those who like the Bookmobile, every Friday

10 am to 12 pm, it is now a smaller county

due to an accident that damaged to the original

Bookmobile and injured the driver. Our best wishes

for a speedy recovery go to the driver.

Historic Day

On Primary Election Day, June 8, we hope to

see everyone come out to vote at the Green

Valley Chantable Hall.

Treasure Box Stretches Food Dollars

The Treasure Box provides families and individuals with a 21.25-pound bag

of non-perishable grocery-store quality

food that normally costs between

\$65 and \$100 for just \$30 each. One

Treasure Box is enough to stretch

your food dollar to the limit or an

individual's nutrition needs.

Leona Valley Community Church

has partnered with the Treasure Box

to provide these boxes in our community.

Once a month we pick up the boxes

ordered and bring them to 9301 Leona

Ave. Leona Valley, so you can pick

them up or you can order yours

and we will bring them to you.

and see the menus please go to

WWW.thetreasurebox.org and get

ready to order your box.

Just go to the web site and click on

"Find a location." Put in your zip code

and it will place you within 20 miles of

your location. You can order a box

or two or more and we will do the rest. There is

no limit to the number of boxes you

can order.

Leona Valley Community Church

661-279-3535

See News Happening?

Call The Mountain Yodeler

at 724-1293 or 965-2201.

THE ROCK INN

Fathers Day Specials!

Breakfast Lunch Dinner
Open every day at 8 a.m.

Taco Night - Monday

Acoustic guitar music - Tues., 7 - 9 pm

Wed. - Destination Ride Spaghetti Night - all you can eat!

Karaoke - Thurs., 6 pm, kids welcome!

Country line dancing - Fri., at 8 pm

Sat. Prime rib dinner Live music - 9 - 9.95 Dinner Specials - Monday - Friday

visit our website:
historicrockinn.com

724-1855

The Art PageTodd Cooper
Art Editor*state of the ART in our community***Live Broadcast Every Friday**

Join me in the studio every Friday at 2PM on Ustream. Just go to my website at thecoyotestudios.com and click on the Ustream link. You can watch without signing up, but if you open a Ustream account (it's free, quick, easy and secure) you can interact with me and the other guests (mostly artists) via the chat window.

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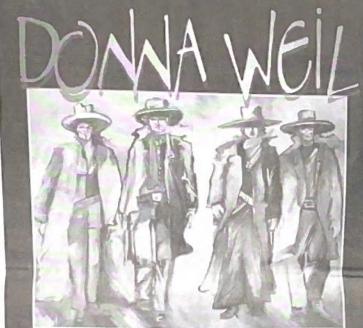
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Paint it Black...or Don't

Many artists will tell you to never use black paint out of a tube. I'm not one of them. I wouldn't go that far, but I believe that black paint is

very limited in its usefulness. A better technique is to mix black with white, and you want a real jet black, add a bit of Alizarin Crimson.

marine Blue and Raw Sienna. You can lead it towards the dark, like a dark teal, and a dark warm. A good mixture to start with is Ultra-

LVAG NOTES

Members! Sign up for gallery sittings! Just put your name on the calendar at the gallery.

LVAG logo merchandise is available at www.zazzle.com/TheCoyoteStudios/LVAG

The next LVAG general meeting will be Sunday, June 27, 2010, 2pm, at the Lakes & Valleys

Gallery, 43751 Lake Hughes Rd, Lake Hughes.

In Loving Memory**Allan "Al" Carlson**

Elizabeth Lake resident Allan "Al" Carlson passed away on Sunday, May 16 after a long illness. He passed away in a loss to all of us who knew him.

Al was born June 6, 1935 in Missoula, Montana, the son of Carl Howlett and Ruth Carl (nee Davis) Carlson.

He spent his early years growing up in Hamilton, Montana, living and working on farms in the area. He attended Hamilton High School and later attended Harbor College in San Pedro and UC Berkeley.

In the early 1950s, Al left Montana and came to California seeking work. He worked in various odd jobs until he was hired at North American Aviation in 1953. North American Aviation was later to become Rockwell International and then Boeing.

Al worked for Rockwell for

37 years, retiring in 1990 to pursue his dream of traveling around the world. While at Rockwell, he started out as a riveter and worked his way to becoming manager of the assembly of the space shuttle.

Al was involved with the space program from the very beginning, working on the original space shuttle program, the Apollo program and finishing with the last of the shuttles now in storage. He made many fond memories of the people he worked with, the astronauts he met, and the week he spent in space. He was always very proud to have been a part of history with his work on the space program.

In 1966, Al earned his private pilot's license. He was crew chief for the Marine Corp Reserve for 6 years.

Al was a member of the Masonic Lodge, the Retired Teachers Association, the Lakes and Geeseers, the Lakes social group for retired men.

He enjoyed model sailing, computer photography, watching old western movies and airplanes, but most of

all, he enjoyed his time with family and friends.

Al was a master story teller. He could tell a story and have you wondering if it was true or not. He would run off to join the circus which was actually a true story.

In 1990 Al and Jan sailed for four years to the South Pacific on their boat "Cool Change III". They visited many different countries and experienced Al's dream of sailing around the world.

This was an experience of a lifetime for both of them and their friends who joined them along the way.

Al and his wife Jan moved to the Lakes 10 years ago and have been very involved in community service, especially the 4th of July and even helping to organize the Lakes Community Center, HELUS, our service group along with Carl and The Mountain Yodeler.

Al was a computer geek and it was a computer that he couldn't - or didn't - do for

The Mountain Yodeler, our service group along with Carl and The Mountain Yodeler.

Al was the devoted production assistant for *The Mountain Yodeler* until a few years ago when he was no longer able to do it.

Over the years, he worked tirelessly to make the photos, stories and the news of *The Mountain Yodeler* look great. He worked meticulously at everything he did, always striving for perfection.

Al loved helping with community events, and every year, when the community center had a costume party, he would take pictures of all the children with Santa Claus for the photo booth and for the newspaper.

He also videotaped the HELUS musical program year after year and took it to the 1999 49ers Parade and Cherry Parade. He created a computerized architectural rendering of the reconstruction of the community center, which was used as the basis

of the recent remodeling work.

Al was a talented artist and musician and soon after the Carlsons moved here he formed a country-cowboy band called *The Geeseers*.

The Geeseers which played at many of the restaurants in the Lakes and Valleys and at private parties. He was a great singer and loved to entertain.

A patriotic man, even though he was born in Jan with his enormous yard sale which raises money to send care packages to men and women in the military.

Al and Jan also hosted the elections in their garage every year.

Because of Al's and Jan's community service, in 2007 the Carlsons were chosen as grand marshals of the 49er's Parade.

Al was kind and generous with his time and energy. He was always there to help his friends and never asked for anything in return.

About a year ago, when Al was undergoing treatment for cancer, he said "I have had a good life. I have a great marriage, great kids and a whole bunch of great grand children, and I love every one of them." And they all loved him.

We'll miss you, Al.

**Geezer
Tribute to Al**

Al Carlson, whose craggy and tongue-in-cheek humor bound The Geeseers together, died May 16, 2010 in Elizabeth Lake.

Immediately after joining the Geeseers, Al began producing annual calendar for birthday and other special occasions and ultimately a Geezer Calendar that was an instant success.

His writing, photography, and organizational contributions were also vital to the success of *The Mountain Yodeler*.

Al respected The Geeseers and their contributions to the community life, and for rising above his own ego to quell ridiculous disagreements among the members. He also appreciated fellow Geeseers during *The Mountain Yodeler*.

As a member of the band put it, "I have never known anyone more lovable or well informed than Al." The Geeseers miss Al and we join Jan Carlson, her family and friends in celebrating his remarkable life.

Submitted by Norm Judd



All on his boat

Conservancy Picks Up 1,122 Pounds of Trash Around Lake

By Louisa Stephen
President Lakes and Valleys Conservancy

It all started with a contest

at the Lakes and Valleys Conservancy's first annual Earth Day Festival.

The contest event was a whopping

1,122 pounds! First place

winners, with 349 pounds,

were Michelle, Tom, Brian,

Nicole and Heather. The

second place team, with 176

pounds, was made up of the

Kougar's, with winners

(Kathy Kruger, Kelly Kruger,

Karla George and Ashley

George). Third place, with

101 pounds, went to Tom

and Mary Jeffries.

First prize was a \$100

Chevron gas card, second

prize was four tickets to

Hansen's Casino, and the

winner of the raffle was

lunch for four at The Rock

Inn.

Raffle tickets included

prizes from the Amelotte

Valley Winery, Giannini Bistro

& Grill, Dorothy Solberg's

Shakes, a produce gift basket,

Salon D'oro, a \$100 gift

business card ad in The

Mountain Yodeler, and many

others. Congratulations to all

of the winners and congrats

to pants! Shame on the pol-

luters.

The contest was held for

just three hours in the morn-

ing and I think that Julie

Brauskaeiker summed it up

best. "I am so proud of our

friends and neighbors for

their hard work in cleaning up

our beautiful little town,

yet quite disheartened by the

amount of trash they found

over half a ton - that they found!"

Many thanks to all who

participated and volunteered.

Robin and Karen deserve a

heartfelt thanks because the

entire event was their idea.

The Lakes and Valleys

Conservancy would like to thank

Robin for all his efforts.

The Ranch at Elizabeth

Lake, Giannini Bistro

use their parking lot and pro-

vided sandwiches, for which

we are grateful. Waste

Management provided a

large trash bin for us and I

thank Sandra Pursey for her

continued generosity to our

conservancy. I would like to thank the Lakes

Community Center, was kind

enough to let us use their facil-

ities for the event. Thank you

to Waste Management for their

continued support and for

keeping our trash to a minimum.

We had people show up

just to help out in support

of the conservancy. We

had a great turnout to help

preserve and protect the

lake and surrounding area.

Thank you to all who came

out to help out. We raised

over \$1,000 for the conserv-

ancy. We are very proud of

our success and the great

turnout we had.

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June 1, 2010

Volume 10 Number 7



Louisa Stephen and Karen Graham

have a very broad range of

volunteers and supporters -

all ages, political views, etc.

We are very grateful to have

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Louisa Stephen and Karen Graham

The Mountain Yodeler

Lakes Woman's Club Installs Board

By Jeanette Lundberg
Contributing writer

The Hughes-Elizabeth Lakes Woman's Club installed its new board during a luncheon on Wednesday the 20th of May at Crazy Otto's in Leona Valley.

Our new board will be Jeanette Lundberg (President), Debbie Karabinus (Vice President), Dahlia Grossman (Treasurer), Judy Miller (Recording Secretary) and Sharon Lehman (Corresponding Secretary).

The real thrill of the day was

having the honor of recognizing

two of our members who have

been giving their time and

talent to our club for 25 years.

Billy Jo Johnson a resi-

dent of Lake Hughes and a mem-

ber of the club for 25 years was awarded a beautiful

framed certificate and a letter

thanking her for her years of serv-

ice to our club.

She was very pleased and ap-

preciated all the love and support

she received. Debbie Karabinus

was unable to attend the luncheon.

Ellie Reisner, now of Holliday Valley,

was presented with a gift

and a certificate of appreciation

for her many years of service to

the club.

Our new board is

excited to have a new

beginning.

June 1, 2010

Volume 10 Number 7

WEATHER OR NOT?

Weather data for Elizabeth Lake area (Elevation 3450 ft.)

By Tom Kaucher

Temperature

High: 78° on 4-26

Low: 34° on 4-21, 23

Average: 54.1°

Average Low: 37.9°

Average Temperature: 49.5°

Lowest High: 46° on 4-11, 27

Lowest Low: 30° on 4-19, 27

Temperature

High: 111° in 1994

Low: 34° in 1992

Average High: 85.1°

Average Low: 54.7°

Greatest Precipitation: 1.87" in 1993

Averages and records only depict data since 1976.

Did You Know? A tornado destroyed a motel near Broken Bow, Oklahoma. The motel's sign was later found in Arkansas.

June 1, 2010

Volume 10 Number 7

Letter to the Editor

To the editor:

To those of you know my cousin Kara and I are no longer

employed at Jackie's Craft Center.

Since we were not given

any notice to our recent termination we were unable to say

goodbye to so many of you who have been a part of our lives

for the past four or five years.

We wanted to take this opportunity to say goodbye and let

you know that we will be missed.

Many of you have

seen us on a weekly basis for many years and we want

you to know that we will be missed.

We will miss the interactions that have

brightened our days throughout the years.

We believe that in this small community having a business

can be challenging. I attempted to stress the importance of

maintaining a community and the importance of the

people in the community. We

were attempting to do this

but our advice was dismissed.

We are very sad to be leaving the place that has been our

home for so many years. We wish you all

the best and hope to see you around.

Thank you for everything.

Terra and Kara

Loss, and Yet Rejoice

By Allaire Koslow
Three people in my life died recently. My dear friend Shakespeare teacher, Lynn Redgrave, died of breast cancer. My Yoga teacher's wife is gone and Patti Gaines, a dear friend and a Hughes resident for many years, died on Tuesday night April 27, 2010 at Antelope Valley Hospital.

Patti was one of the sweetest souls I have ever had the privilege of knowing. Perhaps that is why her death is the most tragic and shaken me to my core.

She spent the entire day in the AV Hospital emergency room, never being admitted, except for a few moments to scream; I wanted to advocate for her and get help.

Her condition was not "life threatening." Well, it was. She spent the last day of her life on a gurney in the ER.

Fortunately Patti did not die alone. My dear friend Frank Toothaker responded and was with her at the end. Thank you, Frank, for being there.

My compassion and empathy for health workers is great, but I still don't feel that the system let Patti and all of us - down.

There must be a better way. Why do we let people?

What could we have done to prevent this? Thus, I am having a hard time dealing with it and leaving this world too soon.

Dan Morrow says Patti is at peace now, and that is a comfort, but still, we mourn and grieve.

Matthew 21:21: "Chloe got to see and talk to Patti before she thought it would not be for the last time. Patti watched Chloe grow for the last 13



Photo by Allaire Koslow

P.O. Box 371
Lake Hughes, CA 93532
661-699-1481
allaire@verizon.netThe Way I See It!
Watch Your Back Fence!

An opinion by Norm Judd
The Yodeler
Rossmoor Mayfly
The Lake Community
P.O. Box 371
Lake Hughes, CA 93532
661-699-1481
normjudd@verizon.net

years, from a baby until now.

There is a Cheyokes saying: "When you were born, you cried and the world rejoiced. Live your life so that when you die the world cries and you rejoice."

I strive to rejoice and celebrate the lives of those who are departed, but it is not easy.

Have you noticed, not a single reference to Mexicans until this point. But, I am sure that those 460,000 illegal aliens adversely affecting Arizona is definitely, along with others who are educated, our vulnerable southern border.

Am I a racist? Recently I hired a worker of Latino descent through a local business. Later he boasted being an illegal alien, and being here for more than 15 years, while buying a home, raising a family, and working under scale. I dismissed him immediately.

Then I hired a Latino gardener who proudly presented his naturalization documents, and he was legal but I employed the American who had secured citizenship! I guess I "profiled" both brown-skinned men.

While I am a fan of the liberal media, and politicians, have interjected

claims of "racism," "discrimination," etc., in the point that the real impact of this Arizona bill is barely discernible. Even President Obama said it was a "good idea." But unlike our disconnected U.S. Attorney General, Eric Holder, and Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, I read the provisions of SB1070 and the amended HB1202, and have listened to the bill's author, Rep. professor Kris Kobach, one of the bills authors, constitutional attorneys, and a multitude of others. I can assure you that the bill is almost a carbon copy of existing federal legislation. So what's the big

deal?

Then I read the "Immigration Reform" (amnesty) President Obama presented during his distinguished campaign. Along with Arizona, California was the first to pass border control. But on May 19, Obama and Vice President Joe Biden at the White House, stated that the two countries would not be defined by a border or other common needs. Again, showing disdain for Arizona's bill and states' rights.

So, the federal, we are

being governed by those

who want that we travel

path from Mexico's border to

leash, straight to the ballot box

to assess our government

higher taxes, more handouts,

and a weaker America. In my

opinion, that's the way they

want it, and "The Way I See

it."

It's

the

way

they

see

it.

It's

LOCAL CHILDREN WIN ART CONTEST

By Debbie Campanella

In the second year, our local art students participated in the Sierra-Carsonade One 15 annual California Watercolor and Art Festival.

The children, with Sandy Miller being the driving force behind the event to encourage our students. First place went to Jax Sanchez who received mixed media ribbon. Justice Tree Road Maya Turner garnered second place for a pastel painting called Avatar. Bridget Le Doux won second place in her age group for a samracrylic painting of the desert. Leah Sanchez received third place for mixed media painting.

Honorable Mention ribbon were awarded to Jamie Mills, Elizabeth Borowski, Summer Bull, and Leah Koen. All of them eagerly await the next competition.

The Lakes and Valley Art Guild holds classes every Tues. and Wed. and transportation is provided by H.E.P.I.S. school bus #2 right after the regular school day.

Class is also held at the Leona Valley gallery on Thurs. from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m.

If interested you can register by calling Debbie Campanella at 724-1491.



T-Ball at the Greenside Grill

(Photos: Dabila Grossman)





Bill Leon and son, Trent, pick up trash.



Lakes Little Miss Elys Carroll, Lakes Junior Miss Ashley Wade, Lynnell Parker and son Ryan as turtle and snake LVC President Louis Stephen, Treasurer Debbie Ehms and Secretary Kevin Bruckeier.



Below: VOP Mike Foxworth with Lynnell Parker.



Photos: Karen Graham and Dahlia Grossman.



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Flyers: \$100. You supply 2500 flyers.

Classified ads: \$10 for the first 10 words; 50 cents per word for additional words.

Ads are due with payment on the 15th of the month preceding publication.

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The Mountain Yodeler

June 1, 2010

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Page 22 The Month of May

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Page 23



Free Chipping for Valleys and Lakes Residents

By Laura "Izzi" Verner

Free Chipping Days

On Saturday, June 5, we will be providing woodchipping for the third annual Green Valley Free Chipping Day the following weekend on June 12. This successful FREE event put on by the USDA Forest Service and the AFV&L Fire Safe Council, provides a great opportunity to remove the brush and other hazardous fuel material from their property, making our communities fire safe.

The events take place at the Green Valley and Lakes Community Center, respectively and are from 8 am to 3 pm with early drop off at 6 am.

For more information on the Free Chipping, The FSC is providing the food that will be cooked by the Green Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Lakes Community Center.

Fire Season is here now, we can't afford to wait to clear brush. Assistance may also be available for people who are unable to transport their brush to the Green Valley Chamber Hall and Lakes Community Center. Please call Betty at the FSC at 270-9911 no later than June 1 to make arrangements.

Fire Safe Council Upcoming Meetings

If you would like help or have any questions please call us. Our number is 270-9911 Our Fire Safe Council meetings are the first Wednesday of every month at 7 pm, alternating among these three locations. Our first meetings are June 2 in Green Valley and July 7 in Lake Hughes. We look forward to seeing you.

Green Valley CERT Squad Holds First Meeting

By Laura "Izzi" Verner

On May 19, Ron Sardisco, Ron Kemard, Lakes and Valleys CERT Captain, Green Valley CERT Squad Leader, Ron Sardisco, and Green Valley residents Vonna McCullum and Betty Young, met at the Lakes Community Center for the first Green Valley CERT squad meeting on May 19. For now, our meetings are planned for the third Wednesday of the month and later may be every other month or quarterly.

We hope to see all of the Green Valley residents who just completed their CERT training at our next meeting, June 16, at the Green Valley Chamber Hall. Please call or email Ron Sardisco at 270-8074, email Ron at ronsardisco@comcast.net or call the FSC at 270-9811.

A special word of thanks needs to go to Green Valley Chamber Hall president, Vonna McCullum, for suggesting and getting the CERT training class going in Green Valley.

Go For Fun Club Sees Tom Sawyer

By Glenn McConnell, contributing writer

The Go For Fun Club is open to all Green Valley seniors (55 and above). We meet the first Saturday of each month at 1 pm.

This month we are meeting at Pioneer Place Amigo Gift Store in Leona Valley on June 5 for a barbecue. Bring your own utensils and plate along with a salad or dessert. The meat and drinks will be provided.

Our play this month will be "Tom Sawyer". We traveled to Newhall once again and enjoyed the play, "Tom Sawyer" at the Canyon Thatched Guild. It was refreshing to see most of the performers were children. The production was very amateurish but very good.

Along with our usual group we were treated to the presence of Teddy, Steve and Sandy from Leona Valley. Thanks for coming. Also joining us on this trip were two seniors in retirement and their spouses.

After the play we all enjoyed dinner together at the Elphant Bar. The food was superb.

For additional information call Glenn or Bonnie at 270-9016.

Treasure Box Stretches Food Dollars

The Treasure Box provides families and individuals with a 21-25 pound box of frozen, pre-cooked, quality food that normally retails for between \$65 and \$100 for just \$20 each. One Treasure Box is enough to numerously feed a family of four for about a week or an individual for almost a month. No qualifications are required to receive a box.

Leona Valley Community Church has partnered with the Treasure Box to provide this benefit in our community and surrounding areas. Once a month we will pick up boxes ordered and bring them to 9999 Leona Ave, Leona Valley so you can pick them up from us. To order your boxes and more information please go to WWW.thetreasurebox.org and get ready to stretch your food dollars.

Just go to the web site and click on "find a location". Put in your zip code and it will place you within 20 miles of your location. Then order your box or boxes and we will do the rest. There is no limit to the number of boxes you can order.

Leona Valley Community Church
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Letter to the Editor

To the editor:

Ladies' Dilards is changing for the better. For personal attire, a wireless bra, new Jammie in Intimate Apparel, Lisa in Accessories, and another young fad, Lisa, in Shoes (She took my receipt for Shoes, ran it up to Customer Service, came back and gave me the Dilards savings card—in my receipt book I used to get items in Intimate Apparel and Lisa in accessories carried ALL my purchases for me out to Rita Mitchell, Lake Elizabeth

History Night at Lakes Community Center

Photos: Dahlia Grossman



At our first history night of the year, we saw amazing before (the remodel) and after pictures of the Lakes Community Center building and grounds. It was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in the 1930's. It was the first historical movie about the CCC, starring by the President during the Great Depression to employ young men.

Leona Valley residents shared with us an update on the restoration of the old Leona Valley school house.

The presentation followed a great meal and a tour of the newly restored east wing. It's very exciting for us to have completed Phase I of the renovation. We are grateful to Bill Besson and his crew for all the time they put into the project.

The community center will continue to hold fundraisers throughout the year so that we can move forward with Phase II of the renovation, the west wing. Watch The Yodeler for information on upcoming

Page 26 The Mountain Yodeler
Boy Scouts Raise a New Flag



June 1, 2010

Volume 10 Number 7



Our local Boy Scout troop celebrated at a flag raising ceremony at the Lakes Community Center on the first Saturday in April. Photos: Peggy Moore

Protect Your Pets from Cocoa Mulch

Submitted by Lori Chonetz

Cocoa Mulch, which is made by Home Depot, Foresman's Garden Center, and garden supply stores, contains a lethal ingredient called Theobromine. It is lethal to dogs and cats. It smells like chocolate and it really attracts dogs. They will eat it and die. Several deaths have recently occurred.

Theobromine is in all chocolate, especially dark or baker's chocolate, which is toxic to dogs. Cocoa shells contain

potentially toxic quantities of theobromine, a xanthine compound that stimulates the heart and theophylline. A dog that ingested a lethal quantity of theobromine and theophylline will develop severe convulsions and die 17 hours later. Most of the stomach contents and the ingest ed cacao bean shell revealed the presence of lethal amounts of theobromine.

Water Rights Issues Concern Residents

By Karen Bryan

Local water wells have been proposed that will affect many Lakes and Valleys residents.

The first issue has to do with hauled water wells, and AB 2230. If carried out, any new construction, additions over 50%, or failures of existing well systems up to 100% will cost \$30,000 and \$50,000 to make the new systems compliant.

The new systems will require an onsite disinfection system, plus new holding tanks, and a minimum of 1/4" thick walls (not 12 gauge) and the use of State Standards the same as commercial standards.

There will be annual compliance reports and annual fees (with attached annual fees) from all owners. Plus, up-to-date records will need to be on any new systems.

The second issue is Water Treatment and All new wells.

Hauled Water requirements, any new construction, additions over 50%, or failures of existing septic systems will cost between \$30,000 and

\$50,000 to make the new systems compliant with code. This ordinance will have codes of enforcement and those required for the hauled water.

In addition, if a parcel uses a domestic well, a second "monitoring" well 100 feet down gradient from the septic tank will be required with sampling (and its associated record keeping and testing) required every five years.

There are pages and pages of requirements with a lot of fine print associated with each one. One of the biggest concerns, however, is that the new septic systems will add between \$60,000 and \$100,000 to any new construction or upgrade of existing systems. This ordinance could prevent new construction or bankrupt a homeowner who couldn't afford the new code compliant upgrade.

At the April 29 meeting of the Lakes Community Round Table Councils, it was suggested that it would be wise for homeowners to obtain extra coverage on their homeowners insurance

should any future fire or earthquake cause damage to their system to the point that they will be forced to do "new up to code" systems. Luckily, Antonovich apparently wants more public participation in these issues as voted on, so we should all get up to speed on these issues and let our city and attend all the Public Participation meetings.

At this point, we can anticipate that they will be held in the Chimbote Center but the concern is that the building won't be large enough

to accommodate all the anticipated turnout.

The Amador Valley chapter of the Libertarian Party will hold its monthly meeting at 8 p.m. on June 18 at the Palomarin Inn, 1223 W. Ave. P in the Palomarin Mall. Join us at 7 p.m. for dinner.

The Libertarian Party of Los Angeles will hold its annual convention on Saturday, June 19 at the French Quarter Inn, 1911 Sunset Blvd., Silverlake. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Mark O. Hatfield, former Governor of Oregon. For info go to lpac.org/annualmeeting.php

There will be a public forum on water issues, including the proposed new water rights ordinance. The forum will be held on June 19 at 7 p.m. at the French Quarter Inn, 1911 Sunset Blvd., Silverlake. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Mark O. Hatfield, former Governor of Oregon. For info go to lpac.org/annualmeeting.php

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Page 27 The Mountain Yodeler
History: The Tragedy of St. Francis Dam

Reprinted with permission from Discover Green Valley, compiled by Jack and Louise Amelukyan

In the chill of the night on March 12, 1928, the two-year-old St.

Francis Dam stood in lonely grandeur some 50 miles north of Los Angeles. M. Muñoz's impregnable engineering masterpieces, a solitary keeper of

water, a dam that had been

swung 54 miles to the sea in Ventura.

It ranks with the 1906 San Fran-

cisco earthquake and fire, which

killed 452 people, as one of

California's worst disasters.

The dam was appointed

by Governor C.C. Young, reporting

just 12 days after the dam's collapse,

and planned to last 500 years.

The dam's 100,000 cubic yards of

concrete, one weighing 1,600 tons,

all but tucked away in history's

grave.

Thinking of holding a cubic foot of

soil weighing 100 pounds in your

swimming pool and jumping into a

swimming pool, you may say.

But the St. Francis Dam, built

the landside's powerful force pro-

pelled the concrete base upward

and outward, and the dam was

more vulnerable, he added, with

the enormous buoyancy of those

12 million cubic yards.

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the enormous buoyancy of those</

By Robert Kerekes
Contributing writer

Joe Spambach, far west side local farmer, presented a report on the May Co-op meeting. Joe grows, on four acres, a variety of crops, including Sweet West, many varieties of summer crops, including corn. He also has a roadside stand.

Some of Joe's farming is done organically and some is done chemically. My suggestion is that anyone who wants to grow organic crops, learn how and what he used to grow whatever is being purchased. His organic leanings seem to be developing quite a bit.

He says he is growing many things that are not easy to grow here, such as harrage tomatoes, so visiting his farm when it is in full swing should be interesting.

Joe sells rows of corn before they are even planted, for twenty bucks, you pick when ripe. The rows are no more than 100 feet long, so you can have a row over a period of time, as Joe does successive plantings in a row. A number of H.E.L.U.S. members bought a row, including Roben and I.

Joe spent most of his adult life as a building contractor, who did a lot of surrounding gardens over the years. After retiring he went full time into the farm. Joe can be reached at 661 724-1867 or 661 226-5355. Tell him you heard about his farm from me.

Raised Bed Gardening

One of the best ways to grow food is with raised beds. A raised bed is basically an elevated area that rises above the surrounding ground level. The best raised beds is in a frame surrounded and supported, by a frame, that goes part way into the ground, as high as is needed, surrounding and containing the soil.

The most common material used for frames is wood. The best wood is redwood. It is not cheap but it resists rot the best. Redwood is a natural wood and used be sure it is safe.

Cinder blocks, or some other similar material, can be used. When contained raised beds are more work and up for it once established by a lot of care.

Raised beds can be of any length but the width should be about five feet or less. It depends on the size of the people using the bed. Taller people

who have a long reach can go wider and vice versa. Once a raised bed is established it is never to be walked upon, because it will be compressed in any way.

Once the size and location of the bed is determined add two feet to each side.

This is one of the few times you will have to use a rototiller to turn the soil with a rototiller, tractor, horse-drawn plow or whatever.

Add about a four-to-six-inch layer of animal manure, such as horse or steer, and add other things like wood ash and soil suller. Thoroughly mix it all together.

The extra two feet turned all around the bed will be used for paths and such.

Once the perimeter is established dig down a minimum of two feet. Need to go down to about one foot and some more. The soil needs to be laid in below the wood for a minimum of another foot. Placing the wood a foot down helps to keep out marauding weeds.

Build the containing wall to whatever height desired, throw in the extra manure, add more soil, add more, etc. Bring the surrounding soil up to level or leave it lower.

Plant the seeds in the ground without any containing walls and they won't grow well and are quicker and easier to make. Instead of being vertical, the seeds will be horizontal, which is cooler. If there are beds next to each other, a flat path of about two feet will remain.

Build them basically the same as containing walls.

The Garden Co-op meets monthly on the second Saturday at 3 pm at my place.

This month, due to a wedding, the meeting will be on the third Saturday. June's meeting is on the 19th. Call or email me for more information.

Horse Co-op is dissolved. Seems like everyone came out ahead when considering the total time of involvement. Roben and I are getting Hovey to a place where she will be well appreciated. It looks like Roben is ready to move on to other things and doing it to old Jasmine will be enough for her. But Honey will be missed by all, especially Jasmine.

Buy local, not global.

R & R Homestead, PO Box 2738, Lancaster, CA 93539 (661) 729-0992 rrmhomestead@qnet.com



HELUS Students Create Wax Museum

By Gillian Chatterer, staff writer/photographer
In the 5th Grade Wax Museum presentation. Many gathered around to see the wax figures come to life at H.E.L.U.S. Mrs. Silva and Mrs. Carr's class students entertain their parents and families. The students made many wax figures 50-60 cm. Students have witnessed the wax museum then you must have seen the children in action! Many commented that all the students were wonderful - and they truly were! Students spent many months in preparation!

Photos: Gillian Chatterer More photos, page 29

Letter to the Editor

To the editor:
In the May issue, retired U.S.D.A. Forest Ranger John Damann wrote

"All man made lakes and reservoirs go by name first, then lake, like Cattail Lake, Pyramid Lake, etc. That is why you lake, like Lake Edna, Lake Hughes Road" as it is a natural lake. So as I read the proper saying for the lakes is put the word "Lake" first."

This is false information, putting Lake before or after the lake name has no relevance.

Examples:
Great Salt Lake - Natural (Lake comes AFTER)
Lake Mead - Natural (Lake comes FIRST)
Donner Lake - Natural (Lake comes AFTER)

Also, here are the FOUR largest MAN MADE lakes in the USA:
1. Lake Mead (Arizona and Nevada)
2. Lake Powell (Arizona and Utah)
3. Lake Sakakawea (North Dakota)
4. Lake Oahe (South Dakota)

Sincerely, Joel Daniels, Elizabeth Lake



Wax Figures (cont. from page 28) Photos by Gillian Chatterer

Letter to the Editor

To the editor:
I would like to take this opportunity to thank a local resident for his help on May 4.

I had just gotten home around 8:30 pm. My daughter yelled to me to come outside as a man on the door and the horses were in. I ran outside in a panic, since we live near a blind curve on Elizabeth Lake Rd.

Six of my horses were out. Four of them were in the road by the gate and two were heading down the street into the blind curve.

The straining on the gate had snapped. Jay, the man who had strung the horses had gotten out, and my husband were able to round up the four and get them to go in through our front gate. I yelled to the other two and they came back to me.

I am so thankful that Jay took the time to come and get us and help secure the horses. It is a good feeling to know that we have wonderful neighbors who will step in to help in a situation like this.

Thank you so much, Jay!!! Dona

Quotable Notables

"He has no enemies, but is intensely disliked by his friends." - Oscar Wilde

"I am enclosing two tickets to the first night of my new play; bring a friend... if you have one." - George Bernard Shaw to Winston Churchill

"Cannot possibly attend first night, will attend second... if there is one." - Winston Churchill, in response

"I feel so miserable without you; it's almost like having you here." - Stephen Bishop

"He is a self-made man and worships his creator." - John Bright

"Some cause happiness wherever they go; others, whenever they go." - Oscar Wilde



Salt is Leading Cause of Stroke, says Dr. Fuhrman

Reprinted with permission from

Are you at risk for a stroke? by Dr. Fuhrman, leading cause of disability in the U.S., and third leading cause of death. Every year, 400,000 people in the U.S. have a stroke (each year). Although strokes are usually associated with older people, they affect older Americans, they occur in people of all ages.

Most strokes occur in people under the age of 65, and 10-15% occur in those under the age of 45.

Barack Obama, son of Vice President Joe Biden, suffered a stroke, it was called a mild stroke. Joe Biden had a stroke from a hemorrhagic stroke due to a ruptured brain aneurysm in 1985 at the age of 45.

Brit Michaels of the band Peacock and a constant on *The Celebrity Apprentice* had a stroke from an aneurysm (a type of hemorrhagic stroke) at age 47. He was then hospitalized in a rehabilitation facility.

Simply eating a vegetarian or vegan diet can prevent strokes from heading down a path to suffering a stroke. Many vegans believe that their low cholesterol levels and decreased atherosclerosis risk make them exempt from the types of cardiovascular strokes. This is not always the case — they may even be at higher risk.

Everyone needs to know how to protect themselves. It is important to first understand what a stroke is and what causes it.

What is a hemorrhagic stroke?

There are two types of strokes: ischaemic strokes, and hemorrhagic strokes, in which blood flow to the brain is blocked either by a clot or an embolism, or by bleeding.

Hemorrhagic strokes, caused by ruptured blood vessels in the brain due to the rupture of a blood vessel, are more common but can be devastating. The rapid bleeding into the brain can damage the neural tissue, most often resulting in coma, stroke, or death.

What makes normal blood vessels of the brain susceptible to rupture?

Hemorrhagic stroke, on average, affects people younger than ischaemic stroke does, and the main cause of hemorrhagic stroke is high blood pressure. Elevated blood pres-

sure places stress on the walls of the small delicate vessels in the brain, and is a major risk factor for both ischaemic and hemorrhagic strokes.

Protecting yourself from hemorrhagic stroke: Avoid salt

High blood pressure is the most important risk factor for hemorrhagic stroke. It is also the most common life time probability of having high blood pressure. The most effective way to reduce your risk of stroke in this favorable range is to avoid excess salt.

High-salt diet consumption may be particularly dangerous for vegans, vegetarians, and others who have earned low cholesterol levels by eating a low-salt diet.

Unlike heart disease, cholesterol is not an important risk factor for hemorrhagic stroke. In fact, low cholesterol levels are associated with increased risk of hemorrhagic stroke. A number of studies both in Japan and in the West have shown that a diet low in saturated products and a low serum cholesterol were associated with increased risk of hemorrhagic stroke.

In fact, the plaque-building process that results in atherosclerosis and protects against heart disease may actually protect the fragile blood vessels in the brain from the damage due to high blood pressure. Although we may be able to live longer than the general population, we are at greater risk of heart attack first, a high-salt diet may dramatically increase the risk of hemorrhagic stroke. Of course, excess sodium increases heart disease and stroke death in all diet styles, but in vegans, a high-salt diet can be even more dangerous.

To protect against heart attacks, ischaemic strokes, and hemorrhagic strokes, we must avoid excess salt and salt consumption.

Excess salt is more dangerous than most heart disease. In addition to high blood pressure and stroke, salt causes kidney disease, heart disease, osteoporosis, hypertension, and stomach cancer. Avoiding salt is an essential component of a heart-promoting, disease-preventing diet.

To learn more, read Dr. Fuhrman's articles and newsletters about high blood pressure.

Editor's note: Dr. Fuhrman is widely known and highly-respected for his nationwide campaign to prevent heart disease and cancer through education.



T-Ball (Grossman photos)



Congratulations to Kristen Boeve on her graduation from University of California Santa Barbara with a bachelor's degree in financial mathematics and statistics.



Congratulations to Brittany Trotter, who was crowned Miss Palms on May 5. Brittany is the daughter of Paul and Annette Trotter, close friends of the Yodeller's editor.



Heidi Beswick (left) and Jennifer Crockett (right) were recognized April 22, 2010 at the annual 4.0 Recognition Dinner held in honor of 303 high school seniors from all area schools.

THIS 'N THAT



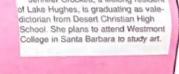
Leona Valley queens held a bake sale on May 20 to raise money for the AV Fair pageant.



BAKE SALE



Two former HELUS students were recognized April 22, 2010 at the annual 4.0 Recognition Dinner held in honor of 303 high school seniors from all area schools.



The students recognized at the annual 4.0 Recognition dinner were: Kristen Boeve, graduate with a cumulative GPA of 4.0; and Brittany Trotter, graduate with a cumulative GPA of 4.0. An award banquet was held in their honor at the Antelope Valley Fair and the 4.0 Recognition dinner was the sponsor for this event.



Distinguished guests included Adrienne and Mark Krogh, Norma Hickling, Dr. Jackie Fisher, all high school principals, and all members of the Antelope Valley High School District Board of Trustees.



Heidi Beswick, daughter of Jay Beswick and HEY teacher Arta Beswick, was inducted as a sophomore on Quartz Hill High School, after which she will attend UCLA with an undergraduate degree in psychology.



Jennifer Crockett, a Melting resident of Lake Hughes, is graduating as valedictorian from Chaminade High School. She plans to attend Westmont College in Santa Barbara to study art.



Has your son, daughter, spouse, parent or sibling graduated? Send us the photo for our page. There is no charge. Email photos with explanation to dahlia.grossman@verizon.net



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